Facilities for village postmen

†1891. MS. SUSHILA TIRIYA:
SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of postmen working presently in rural areas, the State-wise details thereof;

(b) whether these postmen are not being granted pension, gratuity, leave etc. by Government;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Government has received any memorandum regarding regularization of rural postmen; and

(e) if so, the steps being taken by Government in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) There are 103597 Postmen engaged in the rural areas. State-wise details are given in the Statement. (*See* below)

(b) and (c) The Regular Departmental Postman working in Departmental Sub Offices' in Rural Area appointed before 01.01.2004 are granted Pension, Gratuity, Leave, etc. Regular Departmental Postman appointed after 01.01.2004 are covered by the New Pension Scheme of the Government.

93632 Gramin Dak Sevak, Delivery Agents, engaged to deliver the mail in the rural areas are not regular Government employees. They are part-time workers who perform duty upto a maximum of 5 hours daily. According to GDS Conduct and Employment Rules, 2001 they are not entitled to pension. They are paid, Ex-gratia Gratuity up to Rs. 18,000/- on their discharge from the service and paid leave @ 10 days for every half year without the provision of carry forward of encashment.

(d) and (e) The Memoranda and representations received from the GDS representatives have been examined by the Government from time to time. The present position is in consonance with the Judgement of Hon'ble Supreme Court in the case of Supdt. Of Post Offices *vs*. P.K. Rajamma wherein the Apex Court has held that 'Extra Departmental Agents are holders of civil post but they are outside the regular civil service'. They are governed by separate set of Conduct and Employment Rule — 2001, which are non statutory rules.

Statement

State-wise information regarding No. of Gramin Dak Sevak Delivery Agent and Regular Postman working in rural areas

Sl. No.	Name of State	Gramin Dak Sewak Delivery Agent	Regular Postman
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	7379	391

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

1	2	3	4
2.	Assam	3008	173
3.	Bihar	4180	245
4.	Chhattisgarh	1987	20
5.	Delhi	43	4
6.	Gujarat	6754	454
7.	Haryana	1568	33
8.	Himachal Pradesh	2615	73
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	482	153
10.	Jharkhand	1424	305
11.	Karnataka	5021	604
12.	Kerala	4689	1776
13.	Madhya Pradesh	4249	35
14.	Maharashtra	7450	1555
15.	Goa	204	161
	North East		
16	Arunachal Pradesh	144	7
17.	Manipur	448	—
18.	Meghalaya	395	16
19.	Mizoram	301	9
20.	Nagaland	286	9
21.	Tripura	659	34
22.	Orissa	5298	236
23.	Punjab	2183	49
24.	Rajasthan	4917	107
25.	Tamil Nadu	9330	613
26.	Uttar Pradesh	10094	516
27.	Uttarakhand	2383	59
28.	West Bengal	5940	2310
29.	Sikkim	201	18
	TOTAL	93632	9965